

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-73. (Cancelled)

74. (New) A carpet comprising:

a primary backing that consists essentially of a woven fabric having warp and fill yarns needlepunched to a bonded nonwoven fabric, said backing having a dimensional stability of about 3 pounds to about 20 pounds, wherein the dimensional stability is determined by grabbing and pulling the backing at a 45 degree angle in relation to the warp and fill yarns of the backing such that the backing incurs approximately a 5% elongation; and

a piling yarn inserted through said primary backing.

75. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric has a weight of about 0.25 ounces per square yard to about 5 ounces per square yard.

76. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric has a weight of between about 0.5 ounces per square yard to about 3 ounces per square yard.

77. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric has a weight of between about 0.75 ounces per square yard to about 3.0 ounces per square yard.

78. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said woven fabric has a weight of about 2 ounces per square yard to about 8 ounces per square yard.

79. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said woven fabric has a weight of between about 3 ounces per square yard to about 5 ounces per square yard.

80. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein the weight ratio of said woven fabric to said nonwoven fabric is between about 1 to about 5.

81. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said woven fabric comprises warp yarns having about 20 to about 35 ends per inch and fill yarns having about 10 to about 30 picks per inch.

82. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, further comprising a secondary backing attached to said primary backing.

83. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said woven fabric comprises monofilament warp yarns and monofilament fill yarns.

84. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein the weave construction of said woven fabric is a plain weave.

85. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said warp yarns, said fill yarns, or combinations thereof comprise synthetic fibers.

86. (New) The carpet according to claim 85, wherein said synthetic fibers comprise polypropylene.

87. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric is bonded by a method that comprises mechanical interlocking, fusing, or combinations thereof.

88. (New) The carpet of claim 88, wherein said mechanical interlocking comprises needlepunching.

89. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises synthetic fibers selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, nylon, polyester, polyethylene, and combinations thereof.

90. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises polypropylene.

91. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises polyester.

92. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises continuous synthetic fibers.

93. (New) The carpet according to claim 74, wherein said nonwoven fabric is formed by a spunbonding process.

94. (New) A primary backing for a carpet, wherein said primary backing consists essentially of a woven fabric having warp and fill yarns needlepunched to a bonded nonwoven fabric, said woven fabric having a weight of about 2 ounces per square yard to about 8 ounces per square yard and a weave construction of between about 20 ends per inch to about 35 ends per inch and between about 10 picks per inch to about 30 picks per inch, wherein said warp yarns, said fill yarns, or combinations thereof comprise synthetic fibers, wherein said primary backing has a dimensional stability of about 3 pounds to about 20 pounds as determined by grabbing and pulling the backing at a 45 degree angle in relation to the warp and fill yarns of the backing such that the backing incurs approximately a 5% elongation.

95. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said woven fabric has a weight of between about 3 ounces per square yard to about 5 ounces per square yard.

96. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric has a weight of between about 0.75 ounces per square yard to about 3.0 ounces per square yard.

97. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said woven fabric comprises monofilament warp yarns and monofilament fill yarns.

98. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein the weave construction of said woven fabric is a plain weave.

99. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said synthetic fibers comprise polypropylene.

100. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric is bonded by a method that comprises mechanical interlocking, fusing, or combinations thereof.

101. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises synthetic fibers selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, nylon, polyester, polyethylene, and combinations thereof.

102. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises polypropylene.

103. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises polyester.

104. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises continuous synthetic fibers.

105. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein said nonwoven fabric is formed by a spunbonding process.

106. (New) The primary backing according to claim 94, wherein the weight ratio of said woven fabric to said nonwoven fabric is between about 1 to about 5.

107. (New) A primary backing for a carpet, wherein said primary backing consists essentially of a woven fabric having warp and fill yarns needlepunched to a bonded nonwoven fabric, said woven fabric having a weight of about 2 ounces per square yard to about 8 ounces per square yard and a weave construction of between about 20 ends per inch to about 35 ends per inch and between about 10 picks per inch to about 30 picks per inch, wherein said warp yarns, said fill yarns, or combinations thereof comprise polypropylene and wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises synthetic fibers selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, nylon, polyester, polyethylene, and combinations thereof, said primary backing having a dimensional stability of about 3 pounds to about 20 pounds as determined by grabbing and pulling the backing at a 45 degree angle in relation to the warp and fill yarns of the backing such that the backing incurs approximately a 5% elongation.

108. (New) The primary backing according to claim 107, wherein said nonwoven fabric is bonded by a method that comprises fusing, needlepunching, or combinations thereof.

109. (New) The primary backing according to claim 108, wherein the weight ratio of said woven fabric to said nonwoven fabric is between about 1 to about 5.

110. (New) The primary backing according to claim 109, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises polypropylene.

111. (New) The primary backing according to claim 109, wherein said nonwoven fabric comprises polyester.

112. (New) The primary backing according to claim 109, wherein said nonwoven fabric is formed by a spunbonding process.